

For the Farmer.

From the Woodstock Sentinel.

How to Make a New Strawberry Bed to Bear This Year.

EDITOR SENTINEL: DEAR SIR:—You are aware that many of your readers have strawberry beds, and neglect the runners until they cover the bed so thick that they almost cease bearing. I have done the same thing. I wish to tell all such how to make a new bed to bear this year. Early in the spring the ground is settled and in good working condition; prepare a new bed as near the old one as may be, by ploughing or spading well, and hoe or rake until it is in good condition for any vegetable crop. Mark off the new bed into rows of three feet apart lengthwise, and two feet apart crosswise. In each corner dig a hole three inches long by eight inches wide, and three inches deep, then, two feet from the edge of the old bed, draw a line the whole length of the bed, then another line parallel to it, two feet further on; then take a butcher knife, or any other instrument which will answer the same purpose, and cut three or four inches deep, following the line the length of the bed; then cut through the two feet strip again in the same manner, eight inches from each line, which will leave the two feet strip between the lines in three strips, each eight inches wide; then cut across the three strips once in twelve inches, which forms it into parts eight and twelve inches wide. Then, run a spade under the plants three inches deep, and take them up and lay them carefully without breaking into the holes first made in the new bed, press them down firmly, smooth the dirt around the plants thus placed out the grass and weeds, if any. Each hill so taken up will contain from four to eight plants, and the roots not having been disturbed, will bear and grow this year, just as well as if they had not been moved, and far better than if the old bed had been thinned. Wheel in good rich soil and fill up the trenches made in the old bed, thin out and clean the remaining plants; and depend upon it, you will have a good crop of berries from both the old and new beds. I have tried it. Yours truly, C. G. CORNING.

Richmond, Ill., February 28, 1865.

To Cultivate Cucumbers.

EDITOR RURAL NEW YORKER:—As I have not seen this mode of cultivating cucumbers in print, I will send it. I have tried it with good effect. Take a light barrel with one head, and make some eight or ten holes, at the bulge of the barrel, with a small bit—say 1/2 of an inch—and sink the barrel in the ground level with the surface of the ground. Then fill the barrel with soil as high as the holes, and put on about 4 inches of soil; fill up the barrel with good, rich loam, and fill the barrel up with water; and plant plenty of seed so that you can thin them out to six or eight stalks. In case of drought put a pail of water in the barrel about one week. I raised off the barrels, planted this way, over four barrels of pickles; and if they are well watered, through bearing season, they will bear well until the frost kills the vines.

One needs a scaffold to let the vines run. Say, take four poles, ten feet long, and set up about four feet apart with one end on the ground, and raise the other some five feet high with pieces of lath or brush laid across, and I will insure that you will have no cooked cucumbers.

Indiana. A. J. W.

Corn.

We think that too many, rather than too few stalks of corn are usually permitted to grow to the acre. We would like to see the following experiment tried and reported upon: Let the ground be furrowed out four feet each way. Put enough seed in to insure two stalks in each hill; this would make 2,723 hills per acre, and 5,446 stalks, or thereabout. Each of these stalks ought to produce, and, under favorable circumstances, would produce one ear averaging a pint of shelled corn. This would make something like 65 bushels to the acre. The average yield for 1863 in Kansas was 44 bushels to the acre. The corn, standing in hills four feet apart and ten rows in the field, would be in a condition to draw all necessary nutriment from the soil, and receive plenty of the sun's rays to bring it to the highest perfection. For ourselves we intend to try the experiment here indicated, and will report next fall our success.

If any of our farmers have a better plan, let them try it and report the result.—Kansas Farmer.

Setting Out Fruit Trees.

As spring is now here, and as some of our readers desire to set out fruit trees, we will give them a little brief advice, gleaned from the experience of others. In getting your trees ready, you should cut off the limbs one-third their length with a sharp knife, and the long roots the same, if in the way, and the top root one-half. Excavate the place for setting the trees a sufficient depth, three or four feet square. Cover the bottom with sods, furrow down, set in the trees with the roots well spread; if the soil is loose, fill up with the fine top soil, as it produces poor on water; raise the tree up and back in order to get the earth under the center of the tree. Then fill up with the best soil without any manure, leaving the tree, when finished, a little above its natural height, and leave the earth highest next to the tree.

With the trees properly stayed by a single stake, set so as to hold both ways, and some mulch of manure to the ground, but not in contact with the tree, you may expect every one to grow.

Transplanting at Night.

"A friend in whose powers of observation," says the Working Farmer, "we have confidence, and who is an experienced experimenter, has told us that last spring a summer he made the following experiment: He transplanted ten cherry trees while in blossom, commencing at four o'clock in the afternoon, and transplanting one each hour until ten in the morning. These transplanted during daylight shed their blossoms, producing little or no fruit; while those planted during the darker portions maintained their conditions fully. He did the same with ten dwarf pear trees after the fruit was one-third grown. Those transplanted during the day shed their fruit; those transplanted during the night perfect their crop and showed no injury from having been removed. With each of these trees he removed some earth with the roots."

Shelter for Sheep While at Pasture.

Solomon Green, of Townsend, Mass., who says he has kept sheep thirty years, advises to have small buildings made for the sheep, and that they should be dark, so that the sheep by going into them, may avoid flies. He says the sheep will go in at 9 o'clock in the afternoon, and remain till 4 o'clock in the morning. "The house," he says, "should be built of stone, so that it can be moved, and this will enrich the land. A house 12 feet square is sufficient to hold a dozen sheep and their lambs. Move it its length once in two or three weeks. It tends the following which are the best: 'A cure for grub in the head and belly of sheep:' For six sheep, mix two quarts of oats with a large teaspoonful of yellow sulfur and give to the sheep once a week for a few weeks, and then once a month.

Covering Wounds on Trees, Vines, &c.

It is generally known that a little gum shellac dissolved in alcohol, applied to wounds on fruit trees, where large limbs have been cut off in pruning, or where the bark has been destroyed by mice or other causes, will effectively exclude the air and prevent decay. It will also immediately stop bleeding grape vines, where pruning is delayed until the sap starts. The liquid is easily applied, and may be kept for years ready for use, if kept tightly corked in a bottle.—Cor. Country Gent.

A Remedy for Diseased Peach Trees.

The editor of the New England Farmer says that a gentleman residing in Cambridge, informs him that charcoal placed around the roots of the diseased peach was serviceable. He immediately removed the soil from around the trunk of the sickly tree in his garden, supplied it with charcoal, and was surprised at its sudden renovation and subsequent rapidity of growth, and the tenacity with which the fruit held on to the branches, and the unusual richness of its flavor when matured.

Dying in what is called spring, getting to be a rare thing.

The Fun of the Thing.

1861 AND 1862.

"With Morte, Palsam, and petal, We send Old Ale our Dearest!" J. D.

1863.
Our time is changed—no more we cheat
Of Morte, and Bragg—his time to sit, man!
The thing is, how to manage Great,
And stop that everlasting Whom!
Of "sacred soil," not such as may be, but
Is spelt by that most sacred Sheridan.
Grave doubts oppress on every hand:
Will Coffer fight? Can Law, supreme,
Do ought to save our bleeding land,
And realize our early dream?
Hush! I hear the Yankee's Ban:
Janet! let's off at once; and when
Beyond the reach of these hyenas,
Starvation, and Old Ale's rhapsody,
We'll have some rest—
God knows what's best!
Good-bye!
1861

A fac simile of the following inscription on a grave-stone in Williamsport, Pa., is in circulation:

"Sacred to the memory of
Henry Harris
Born June 27th 1831
Of Henry Harris & Jane
his Wife. Died on the 4th of
May 1867 by the kick of
a colt in his Bowels peaceable
and quiet, and Friend to his
Father & Mother & respected
by all who knew him
and went to the world
where horses can't kick
where sorrow & weeping
is no more."
TAYLOR & SUGG.

Out of Order.

At a meeting, a year or two ago, in this country, a dilettante was speaking on a question not strictly within the range of business then on the tapis. Becoming animated as his remarks progressed, he exclaimed, with something of melo-dramatic solemnity—
"Mr. President, my bowels yearn for the miserable victim!"
"Order! order!" shouted several voices from the opposite corner of the house: "the gentleman's bowels are out of order!"
The point of order was sustained by the chair, and the speaker was commanded to his seat.

An Irish Tangle.

A regular boglander, from County Clare, walked up to Captain Lamson of the Parliament, one day in Liverpool, and made inquiries about a passage across the Atlantic, in this fashion:
"Order! order!" shouted several voices from the opposite corner of the house: "the gentleman's bowels are out of order!"
The point of order was sustained by the chair, and the speaker was commanded to his seat.

Wanted.

The following advertisement appears in the Jamestown Journal:
"Wanted: A boy to learn the printer's trade. A boy that knows a bee from a bull's foot, and is willing to work without owing an interest in the office, and does not require too much waiting on, can have a chance in the Journal office. He will not be expected to take the whole charge of the business of the office at first."

Singular Prayer.

A minister, while praying, the other day, got off the following with reference to intemperance among officers, civil and military:
"O, Lord, may intemperance cease in the land! Especially may it cease among officers; for, O, Lord, if they are determined to be drunk in spite of all the warnings to the contrary, we beseech Thee not to permit them all to get drunk at one time."

A Heavy Dinner.

Sam Jones lived up in Oxford County, New Sam was an enormous eater; and it happened that he was one day hauling a load of shucks to the nearest village, when his team got stuck in a sand hill. Well, did Sam fret and scold at his oxen, or unload his team! Not he. He very coolly told down his dinner from the wagon, and ate it down, and ate it down, and ate it down with the rest of the load without further trouble.

The Sioux City Journal publishes the following notice, which explains itself:

"Modell Harrison county Iowa February 19 1865 to the county judge assist Iowa I forbid you or any one else given license or grant license to any one to marry Elvina Gurley the daughter of Reuben S. Gurley and Elizabeth Gurley and furthermore to note all the county judges of the same in Nebraska up and down the river."

A Gentleman, not long since, in one of his rides in Illinois, sought to make himself interesting to a good-looking mother of a sweet baby, occupying the next seat in the car.

After duly prizing the baby he remarked to the mother, "He is a real sucker, I suppose?"
"No, sir," said the lady, blushing, "we had to raise him on the bottle." The gentleman resumed his reading, and has not bragged on any strange baby since.

Not long since, a young man entered a fashionable store in Boston, where the young lady was employed in the store, asked him if he would not like to purchase some perfume to put in his drawers.

"I don't wear drawers," he replied.
"Couldn't I put it in my pants just as well?" She faintly.

A physician, prescribing syrup of buckhorn for an old lady, wrote his prescription according to the usual abbreviation of Ramus Catharticus, "Syr. Ram. Cat." On asking her if she had taken the medicine, she replied in a great rage, "Well, I ain't going to take syrup of ram for anybody under the heavens."

At a training down East, after an order was given to return ramrods, one of the soldiers broke down the line and was off at full speed.

"Halloo!" bawled the commanding officer, "where are you going?" "Down to Squire Muggins, to return the ramrod borrowed of him," you said return ramrods."

It is stated that a marriage ceremony was recently performed in Granby, Conn., during which the officiating clergyman "forgot himself, and prayed that 'the family and friends of the deceased' might be watched over. The mistake interested somewhat with the solemnity of the proceedings.

Quite a number of women down East, most of them old maids, have issued a call for a convention, stating their object to be "to gain a true knowledge of the nature and attributes of men." We respectfully suggest to them that they are not going the right way. Why don't they get married?

A clergyman lately travelling in the oil region, saw a child in the road stumbling and falling. He kindly picked her up, saying, "Poor thing! are you hurt?" When she cried out, "I ain't hurt! Dad struck a lie with yesterday!"

The following note was lately received by a gentleman from his ranch-keeper:

"Please send me, by the boy, a pair of trace chains and two-door hinges. I have had twins last night—also, two padlocks."

An Irishman dropped a letter into the post office the other day, with the following memorandum on the corner, for the benefit of all indigent postmasters into whose hands it might fall: "Please hasten the delay of this."

An editor of a city paper, recently removed to the country, thus wrote to a friend: "Oh! the transcendent joy of living in so charming a locality, and raising your own vegetables and laying your own eggs!"

An Irish painter advertises in London a picture of Death as follows:

Useful and Curious.

Preserving Trees.

For the benefit of our citizens who desire to become public benefactors by setting out shade trees to comfort the weary pedestrian as he journeys through our city under the burning rays of next summer's sun, we clip from an exchange the following suggestions for preserving trees. We regard them worthy of consideration and practical use. When our guests, and anything that will destroy them should be widely disseminated:

In setting out new trees drop some old bones or horns, and scraps of old iron, nails, iron dust or filings, in the bottom of the hole around the roots. The bones will continue a slow decay for years, and yield a generous and permanent nutriment to the tree, and effectively prevent its becoming infested with any of the numerous vermin which prey upon trees in cities.

Trees already planted can be treated with iron by depositing iron around the roots below the surface, and by driving nails into the tree. Both these methods may be used, and as they have been repeatedly and successfully tried for years past on both fruit and shade trees, are not mere experiments or theories. No fear need be entertained of injuring a valuable or tender tree; the first season will demonstrate the utility of the measure.

When it is found that a tree is infested with vermin, an application of petroleum to the injured parts will kill the insects or the grub. The crude article, if it can be procured, is the best, but if not at hand, the lubricating oil, coal, or carbon oil, will answer the purpose.

Common tansy, planted around peach trees, has been found to keep the grub and worms from them, and secure regular crops, where every other preventive failed.

Whitewashing.

The time for cleaning and fixing up has come, and one of the most important items is whitewashing. We often wonder that people do not do more at this. How much neater and more cheerful a whole place looks, if a few hours are spent in whitewashing the outside of the house, the cellar, etc. It changes the whole appearance of the homestead. One day's work thus expended will often make a place twice as attractive and add hundreds of dollars to its saleable value. It is a most economical and useful time, not only makes it lighter and neater, but more healthful also.

For cellars—a simple mixture of fresh slacked lime is best.

For house rooms—the common Paris White to be bought cheaply, is a very good. We take of each, 2 lbs. of whitening, an ounce of the best white or transparent glue: cover the glue with cold water overnight, and in the morning mix more or less of the whitening, until desired.

The Paris White is then put in hot water, and the dissolved glue stirred in, with hot water enough to fit for applying to the walls and ceilings. This makes a very fine white, so firm that it will not wash off, and is entirely odorless.

When common fresh slacked lime is used, some recommend adding to each 2 1/2 gallons a pailful—2 table-spoonsful of salt and 1 pint of boiled linseed oil, stirred in well while the lime is in the water. This is recommended for outdoor and in-door work.

For an out door whitewash, we have used the following with much satisfaction: Take a tub, put in a peck of lime, and water plenty to slack it, and mix with slacking, stir in thoroughly 1/2 a pound of tallow or other grease, and mix it well in. Then add hot water enough for use. The compound will withstand rain for years.—Agriculturist.

To Protect Furs from Moths.

All furs—Russian sable, stone marten, fish, Maltese, chinchilla, and colored—should be put away as soon as warm weather commences. A sure way to keep them, is to make newspaper sacks, double, large enough to lay the furs in without folding more than once to crowd or break them. Make the edges of the paper perfectly tight, by gluing with Spaulding's prepared glue, or stitched with needle and coarse thread all around. After you have applied the hot flat iron where you think the moth has worked, and where you are sure the furs are brushed and free from the moth work, put them in this paper sack, the ink on which has also the effect to prevent them. Then put this sack in a linen one and hang up in your closets, press, or some dark place, away from flies in summer, and not store them away in trunks. Many use tobacco in putting up furs for the season, but there is always danger of the furs being destroyed, if that is used with them. If you prefer to put something in with them, use camphor, or fine salt sprinkled through them. The risk of using tobacco is, there is an insect in the tobacco which is as destructive as the moth, so that this plan is not a safe one to use in any form, shape or manner.

New Bed Bug Trap—Sure Thing.

An exchange gives the following recipe, which we reproduce for the benefit of our bug-bitten friends: Take a board, say a foot wide and four feet long, puncture it with many holes with a small bit, put it inside the headboard and next to the bed and pillow; if there is a bug about the bed he will find the way to the hole in the board soon. Take out of its place every morning, hold it over the fire or water, and give it a few rap with a hammer, then put in place and repeat. This is catching the insect in a hurry and upon philosophical principles—the best antidote we have yet heard of.

Substitute for Butter.

The Baltimore Clipper says: "A lady who is a famous housekeeper, recommends an economical plan for making cakes without butter, which may be of use to our lady readers. Take a piece of fat pork, melt it down and strain it through a piece of coarse tin muslin. Set it aside until cool. It is then white and firm, and then may be used like butter in any cake of cake. In poundcake, she assures us it is delicious. She says after one trial she never used butter."

Cure For Bee Stings.

Dr. Bush, Chester Co., Pa., says that one drop of strong spirits of hartshorn will in an instant remove the pain caused by the sting of a bee, wasp or hornet. It should be at hand in every family where there are children, and in every case of accident, it should be used. It is a grateful remedy, and the quick hand that applies the remedy. He recommends the same article also for the removing of grease spots.

A prominent physician says: "In my practice I have noticed that those children who become ill and die in the Rinder, and who are sometimes with roasts and fresh meat at a season when their stomachs require a vegetable diet, easily digested and equally nutritious. I have saved the lives of more children by recommending farinaceous and vegetable food than I ever did by dosing them with disagreeable medicines."

To Remove Fatty or Point.

Soft soap mixed with a solution of potash or caustic soda, or pearlash and slacked lime, mixed with sufficient water to form a paste, is an excellent solvent for old fatty and paint. Either of these may be used, and either may be left for some hours, will render putty or paint easily removable.

A friend has told us an excellent way to keep skippers out of bacon during the summer. It is to give all you cannot eat before the winter. To the wives and children of poor soldiers. He says he tried this plan last winter, and it worked like a charm. Rinder, suppose you try it, and see how it will operate in your case. We strongly recommend it to everybody.

Asparagus.

Wash and cut into small pieces, put into a kettle and pour in water sufficient to cover, and boil about half an hour, adding a little cream before taking from the fire, and it is ready to serve. This is very nice poured over toasted bread, laid in deep dishes.

Galvanized iron telegraph wire is recommended for clothes lines, because "it never rusts, never needs to be taken in, never breaks down," &c.

Steel pipes or tubes may be welded without cold, if properly smoothed and submitted to great pressure.

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J. D. BRUMBAUGH, Attorney at Law,

NOTARY PUBLIC, Marysville, Marshall County, Kansas.

Feb. 10, 1865.

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